GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:728
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012
FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION IN RAINFED AREAS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of rainfed areas in foodgrain production in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether any study has been undertaken to assess the potential of rainfed areas to increase foodgrain production;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a): As per available estimates (2009-10) in about 52.2% of sown area, foodgrains are grown under rainfed conditions. Separate estimates on production of crops under rainfed conditions are not maintained in Ministry of Agriculture. However, total foodgrains produced under both irrigated & rainfed conditions during last three years i.e. 2009-12 are as Under:-

(Million Tonnes)

S.No.	Year	Foodgrain Production
1.	2009-10	218.11
2.	2010-11	244.49
3.	2011-12	257.44

As per first Advance Estimates (2012-13), Kharif foodgrains production is 117.18 Million Tonnes.

(b) to (d): Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) has conducted studies in different rainfed agro-ecological zones to work out the yield gap between potential yield and yield in farmers fields. These studies indicate large gaps between potential and actual yields realized by the farmers in these zones. The details of the findings is annexed.